

22 FEB 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Administration
Deputy Director for Science and Technology

FROM:

Executive Director

SUBJECT: Foreign Language Reserve

1. Recent correspondence between the DCI and the Chairman of his Foreign Language Committee (FLC) focused on the ability of the Intelligence Community to round up on a surge basis people with foreign language qualifications. In a follow-up action, the DDCI directed the Committee to establish a Community language reserve. His specific charge to the FLC is attached for your information.

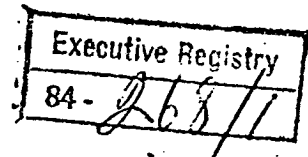
2. The Director suggested that the inactive element of the Agency Civilian Reserve Program and the FBIS roster of annuitants working under contract with the Joint Publications Research Service (JPRS) represent useful mechanisms for augmenting CIA's active duty corps of linguists during crises. The inactive element of the Agency reserve program, now in its formative stage, seems to represent the most attractive of these two approaches; the resource implications would be modest, and it would be relatively easy to obtain security approval for members upon activation. The FBIS roster of JPRS translators may offer less promise for flexible employment as a reserve, and its augmentation for this purpose could pose a resource problem. As I recall, most of these contractors are not CIA annuitants, and they are all actively employed and deal only with unclassified material.

3. I would appreciate hearing your views soon on the most effective way to comply with the Director's desire to enhance the Agency's reserve language capability so that I may advise him of our intended actions in this regard early in March.

Attachment

The Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505



04 FEB 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, Foreign Language Committee.

SUBJECT: Community Linguist Pool [redacted]

REFERENCE: Your Memorandum to the DCI, Same Subject [redacted]
[redacted] 9 December 1983)

1. Thank you for your thorough assessment of the feasibility of creating an Intelligence Community pool of linguists for surge requirements. Tapping the linguistic ability of Community annuitants or reservists is certainly one useful avenue to explore. [redacted]

2. I would like the Foreign Language Committee to be the focal point for this effort. The Committee should:

-- serve as the Community repository for details on the ability of Community elements to augment on a surge basis their respective active duty corps of linguists;

-- keep the DCI apprised of the Community's continued overall ability to respond to emergency situations requiring such augmentation; and

-- provide a Community forum for addressing issues pertaining to interagency linguistic support. Occasionally, you may also be asked to coordinate Community responses to particular linguistic needs. [redacted]

3. The first task the Committee should undertake is to create an inventory of linguistic resources available to the Community but not currently employed. Specifically, we need to know the variety and level of supplemental linguistic support we could presently muster if required, the extent to which security or other considerations would hinder employment of this cadre, and what would be required to improve its flexibility. You should then tackle the longer-term question of how best to fill the gaps in this nucleus and maintain appropriate skill levels. Your Committee members should be able to keep you abreast of the individual efforts already underway in the Community to develop reserve pools of linguists tailored to their individual needs. Defense efforts to update pertinent DoD data bases with current language proficiency test results should, of course, be encouraged. [redacted]

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4. Because you will be breaking new ground in this undertaking, I would appreciate your providing me within the next few weeks an outline of your approach to the problem and your estimate of any difficulties you anticipate that may require resolution by the DCI or myself. With such an outline in hand, we will be in a better position to address the question of the amount and type of support the Committee might need in order to proceed.

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John N. McMahon

*You can do this
orally at some Tuesday
morning ICG meeting
with me*

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